

HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY.

ORATORIO
OF
ELIJAH:

BY MENDELSSOHN, (OP. 70.)

WILL BE PERFORMED BY THE

Handel and Haydn Society,

BEING THE FIRST OF THE SERIES OF EIGHT CONCERTS,

ON SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 3, 1854,

AT THE BOSTON MUSIC HALL,

ASSISTED BY

Mr. H. M. AIKEN, (as Elijah). BASSO.
" A. ARTHURSON, TENOR.

BY THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY'S SOLO CLASS:

| | | |
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| Mrs. F. A. HILL. | Miss HESSELTINE. | Messrs. G. H. CONEY. |
| " S. MESTON. | " TWICHELL. | " J. P. DRAPER. |
| " S. F. WOOD. | " IDE. | " G. GOVE. |
| | " LEACH. | " W. B. BOTHAMLY. |

AND THE ORCHESTRAL UNION.

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| FIRST VIOLIN,..... | SHULTZE, A. FRIES, MEISEL & SUCK. |
| SECOND "..... | HEHL, FRENZEL, EICHLER & GROVES. |
| TENORS..... | KREBS, RYAN & SCHLIMPER. |
| VIOLONCELLOS..... | W. FRIES & MAAS. |
| CONTRA BASSOS..... | BALKE & REGESTEIN. |
| FLUTES..... | ZOHLER & RAMETTI. |
| OBOES..... | RIBAS & FAHRWASSER. |
| CLARINETTS..... | SHULTZ & McDONALD. |
| | BASSOONS..... |
| | THIEDE & HUNSTOCK. |
| | HORNS..... |
| | HAMANN & RUDOLPHSEN. |
| | TRUMPETS..... |
| | HEINEKE & PINTER. |
| | TROMBONES..... |
| | RIMBACH, REGESTEIN & STEIN. |
| | TYMPANI..... |
| | STOHR. |

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|------------|-------|-------------------|
| Conductor. | - - - | Mr. CARL ZERRAHN. |
| Organist, | - - - | " F. F. MÜLLER. |

Doors open at 6; Performance commence at 7.

Tickets at 50 cents each, may be obtained at the principal Hotels; at the Music Stores of Messrs. Wade, Ditson, Reed, Richardson; at 136 Washington street; at the Bookstore of J. P. Jewett & Co., and of the Secretary, No. 1 Joy's Building.

J. S. POTTER & CO., PRINTERS, 2. SPRING LANE, BOSTON.

The sublime Oratorio of the life of the prophet Elijah, so dramatically illustrated, and so richly garnished by the musical genius of Mendelssohn, has heretofore been performed by this Society, entire. To do this, however, requires not less than three and one half hours time; making it necessary either to commence its performance at an early hour in the evening; or to continue it to an unusually late one.

To render it perfectly acceptable to the audiences of the H. & H. Society, its Government has thought proper to condense it within the limits of its usual performances.

In the omissions, a due respect has been felt for the *Composer*, and a proper attention given to the dramatic interest necessary for its completeness as an Oratorio; and the Government feel confident that its presentation in its present form, will neither mar the sterling character of the work, or detract at all from the great fame of its lamented author.

PART FIRST.

INTRODUCTION.

RECITATIVE.

Elijah.—As God, the Lord of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

OVERTURE.

CHORUS.

The People.—Help, Lord! wilt thou quite destroy us? The harvest now is over, the summer days are gone, and yet no power cometh to help us. Will then the Lord be no more God in Zion?

Recitative Chorus.—The deep affords no water, and the rivers are exhausted. The suckling's tongue now cleaveth for thirst to his mouth: the infant children ask for bread, and there is no one breaketh it to feed them.

RECITATIVE. (Mr. Arthurson.)

Obadiah.—Ye people rend your hearts and not your garments, for your transgressions; even as Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye, Forsake your idols, return to God; for he is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind and gracious, and repenteth him of the evil.

AIR.

If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me. Thus saith our God.

Oh that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even before his presence.

CHORUS.

The People.—Yet doth the Lord see it not: he mocketh at us; his curse hath fallen down upon us; his wrath will pursue us, till he destroy us. For he, the Lord, our God, he is a jealous God: and he visiteth all the fathers' sins on the children to the third and fourth generation of them that hate him. His mercies on thousands fall—fall on all them that love him and keep his commandments.

RECITATIVE. (Miss Twichell.)

An Angel.—Elijah, get thee hence; depart, and turn thee eastward; thither hide thee by Cherith's brook. There shalt thou drink its waters; and the Lord thy God hath commanded the ravens to feed thee there; so do according unto his word.

DOUBLE QUARTET. (Members of Solo Class.)

Angels.—For He shall give his angels charge over thee; that they shall protect thee in all the way thou goest; that their hands shall uphold and guide thee, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

RECITATIVE. (Miss Twichell.)

An Angel.—Now Cherith's brook is dried up, Elijah; arise and depart; and get thee to Zarephath; thither abide; for the Lord hath commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee. And the barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruise of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.

RECITATIVE AND AIR. (Mrs. Hill.)

The Widow.—What have I to do with thee, O man of God? art thou come to me to call my sin unto remembrance?—to slay my son art thou come hither? Help me, man of God! my son is sick! and his sickness is so sore, that there is no breath left in him. I go mourning all the day long; I lie down and weep at night. See mine affliction. Be thou the Orphan's helper.

Elijah.—Give me thy son. Turn unto her, O Lord my God, in mercy help this widow's son! For thou art gracious, and full of compassion, and plenteous in mercy and truth. Lord my God; O let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live.

The Widow.—Wilt thou show wonders to the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise thee?

Elijah.—Lord my God, O let the spirit of this child return, that he again may live!

The Widow.—The Lord hath heard thy prayer; the soul of my son reviveth!

Elijah.—Now behold, thy son liveth.

The Widow.—Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that His word in thy mouth is the truth. What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?

Duet.—Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

O, blessed are they who fear him.

CHORUS.

Blessed are the men who fear him: they ever walk in the ways of peace. Through darkness riseth light to the upright. He is gracious compassionate; He is righteous.

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS.

Elijah.—As God the Lord of Sabaoth liveth, before whom I stand; three years this day fulfilled, I will show myself unto Ahab; and the Lord will then send rain again upon the earth.

Elijah.—Call first upon your god; your numbers are many; I, even I, only remain, the prophet of the Lord! Invoke your forest-gods and mountain-deities.

CHORUS.

Priests of Baal.—Baal, we cry to thee; hear and answer us. Heed the sacrifice we offer: hear us, O Baal!

Hear, mighty god! Baal, O answer us: let thy flames fall and extirpate the foe. O hear us, Baal.

RECITATIVE.

Elijah.—Call him louder, for he is a god. He talketh; or he is pursuing; or he is in a journey; or peradventure, he sleepeth; so awaken him: call him louder.

CHORUS.

Priests of Baal.—Hear our cry, O Baal! Now arise; wherefore slumber?

RECITATIVE AND AIR.

Elijah.—Call him louder! he heareth not. With knives and lancets cut yourselves after your manner; leap upon the altar ye have made; call him, and prophecy. Not a voice will answer you; none will listen, none heed you.

CHORUS.

Priests of Baal.—Hear and answer, Baal: Mark how the scorner derideth us. Hear and answer.

RECITATIVE AND AIR.

Elijah.—Draw near, all ye people, come to me. Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, this day let it be known that thou art God; and I am thy servant. O show to all this people that I have done these things according to thy word. O hear me, Lord, and answer me; and show this people that thou art Lord God; and let their hearts again be turned.

QUARTET.

(Mrs. Hill, Miss Ide, Mr. Coney, Mr. Gove.)

Angels.—Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee. He will never suffer the righteous to fall: He is at thy right hand.

Thy mercy, Lord, is great, and far above the heavens. Let none be made ashamed that wait upon thee.

AIR. (Miss Twichell.)

Woe unto them who forsake Him: destruction shall fall upon them, for they have transgressed against him. Though they are by him redeemed: yet they have spoken falsely against him.

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS.

Obadiah.—O man of God help thy people.—Among the Idols of the Gentiles, are there any that can command the rain, or cause the heavens to give their showers. The Lord our God alone can do these things.

Elijah.—O Lord, thou hast overthrown thy enemies and destroyed them. Look down on us from heaven, O Lord; regard the distress of thy people: open the heavens and send us relief: help, thy servant now, O God.

The People.—Open the heavens and send us relief: help, help thy servant now, O God.

Elijah.—Go up now, child, and look toward the sea. Hath my prayer been heard by the Lord?

The Youth. (Miss Hesseltine).—There is nothing: the heavens are as brass above me.

Elijah.—When the heavens are closed up because they have sinned against thee; yet if they pray and confess thy name, and turn from their sin when thou dost afflict them; then hear from heaven and forgive the sin. Help, send thy servant help, O God!

The People.—Then hear from heaven, and forgive the sin. Help, send thy servant help, O God.

Elijah.—Go up again, and still look toward the sea.

The Youth.—There is nothing. The earth is as iron under me.

Elijah.—Hearest thou no sound of rain?—seest thou nothing arise from the deep?

The Youth.—No; there is nothing.

Elijah.—Have respect to the prayer of Thy servant, O Lord my God! Unto Thee will I cry, Lord, my rock; be not silent to me; and thy great mercies remember, Lord!

The Youth.—Behold a little cloud ariseth now from the waters; it is like a man's hand! The heavens are black with clouds and with wind: the storm rusheth louder and louder!

The People.—Thanks be to God for all his mercies!

Elijah.—Thanks be to God, for he is gracious, and his mercy endureth for evermore!

CHORUS.

Thanks be to God! He laveth the thirsty land! The waters gather; they rush along; they are lifting their voices.

The stormy billows are high; their fury is mighty. But the Lord is above them and Almighty.

PART SECOND.

CHORUS.

Be not afraid, saith God the Lord. Be not afraid! thy help is near. God, the Lord thy God saith unto thee "Be not afraid!"

Though thousands languish and fall beside thee, and tens of thousands around thee perish; yet still it shall not come nigh thee.

RECITATIVE AND CHORUS.

Elijah.—The Lord hath exalted thee from among the people; and over his people hath made thee King. But thou Ahab, hast done evil to provoke him to anger above all that were before thee: as if it had been a light thing for thee to walk in the sins of Jeroboam. Thou hast made a grove and an altar to Baal, and served him and worshipped him. Thou hast killed the righteous, and also taken possession. And the Lord shall smite all Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water; and he shall give Israel up, and thou shalt know He is the Lord.

The Queen.—(Miss Hesselstine.)—Have ye not heard he hath prophesied against all Israel.

Chorus.—We heard it with our ears.

The Queen.—Hath he not prophesied also against the King of Israel?

Chorus.—We have heard it with our ears.

The Queen.—And why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord? Doth Ahab govern the kingdom of Israel while Elijah's power is greater than the kings? The gods do so to me and more, if by to-morrow about this time, I make not his life as the life of one of them whom he hath sacrificed at the brook of Kishon!

Chorus.—He shall perish!

The Queen.—Hath he not destroyed Baal's prophets?

Chorus.—He shall perish!

The Queen.—Yea, by the sword he destroyed them all.

Chorus.—He destroyed them all.

The Queen.—He also closed the heavens.

Chorus.—He also closed the heavens.

The Queen.—And called down a famine upon the land.

Chorus.—And called down a famine upon the land.

The Queen.—So go ye forth and seize Elijah, for he is worthy to die; slaughter him, do unto him as he hath done.

CHORUS.

Woe to him, he shall perish; for he closed the heavens. And why hath he spoken in the name of the Lord? Let the guilty prophet perish. He hath spoken falsely against our land and us, as we have heard with our ears. So go ye forth, seize on him, he shall die.

RECITATIVE.

Obadiah.—Man of God, now let my words be precious in thy sight. Thus saith Jezebel, "Elijah is worthy to die." So the mighty gather against thee, and they have prepared a net for thy steps; that they may seize thee, that they may slay thee. Arise then, and hasten for thy life; to the wilder-

ness journey. The Lord thy God doth go with thee. He will not fail thee. He will not forsake thee. Now begone, and bless me also.

Elijah.—Though stricken, they have not grieved. Tarry here my servant; the Lord be with thee. I journey hence to the wilderness.

AIR.

Elijah.—It is enough, O Lord; now take away my life, for I am not better than my fathers. I desire to live no longer; now let me die, for my days are but vanity. I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts; for the children of Israel have broken Thy covenant, thrown down Thine altars; and slain Thy prophets with the sword; and I even I, only am left; and they seek my life to take it away.

RECITATIVE.

See; now, he sleepeth beneath a juniper tree in the wilderness; and there the angel of the Lord encampeth round about all them that fear Him.

TRIO.

Angels.—Lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved; thy Keeper will never slumber.

CHORUS.

Angels.—He, watching over Israel, slumbers not nor sleeps. Shoulds thou, walking in grief, languish; he will quicken thee.

RECITATIVE. (Miss Twichell.)

An Angel.—Arise, Elijah, for thou hast a long journey before thee. Forty days and forty nights shalt thou go; to Horeb the mount of God.

Elijah.—O Lord, I have labored in vain; yea I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain.

O that thou wouldst rend the heavens, that Thou wouldst come down; that the mountains would flow down at Thy presence, to make Thy name known to Thy adversaries, through the wonders of Thy works.

O Lord, why hast thou made us to err from Thy ways, and hardened our hearts that they do not fear thee? O that I now might die!

Air.—O rest in the Lord; wait patiently for Him, and he shall give thee thy heart's desires. Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in Him, and fret not thyself because of evil doers.

QUARTET AND CHORUS.

Angels.—Holy, holy, holy is God the Lord—the Lord Sabaoth. Now his glory hath filled all the earth.

Air.—Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in their heavenly Father's realm. Joy on their head shall be for everlasting, and all sorrow and mourning shall flee away forever.

Chorus.—And then shall your light break forth as the light of morning breaketh; and your health speedily spring forth then, and the glory of the Lord ever shall reward you.

Lord, our Creator, how excellent thy name is in all the nations. Thou fillest heaven with thy glory. AMEN.